THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the general approach is for inclusive education in schools.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Government is not aware of any such study.

National Institute of Open Schooling

†2222. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students enrolled at secondary and higher secondary level in the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS);

(b) whether it is being considered to set up Institutes of Open Schooling in other States also, on the lines of National Institute of Open Schooling; and

(c) if so, by when the National Institute of Open Schooling would be set up in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The figures of number of students enrolled in NIOS during 2007-08 at Senior Secondary level are 181395 and 158947 respectively. The corresponding figure for vocational education is 23674. The cumulative enrolment for these three levels are 840941, 616589 and 113937 respectively.

(b) 14 States have established Open Schooling System for their States.

(c) The State Open School for Madhya Pradesh was set up in 1995. NIOS has also set up a Regional Centre at Bhopal to cater to needs of the States of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.

Expansion of NEHU

2223. SHRI THOMAS SANGMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans/schemes to provide more departments at the North Eastern Hill University (NEHU); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) According to information furnished by the North Eastern Hill University, Shillong the University has submitted a proposal to the University Grants Commission for starting 19 new courses during the Eleventh plan period. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that the UGC Eleventh Plan Visiting Committee has recommended opening of two new departments namely (i) Journalism and Mass Communication and (ii) Tourism and Hotel Management. The UGC has conveyed the recommendation of the Visiting Committee to the University for intimating its priority.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.